

House Bill 1415

By: Representative Reece of the 11th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-2-690.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 mandatory education for children between ages six and 16, so as to provide for
3 reimbursement to the local school system for costs incurred to provide notice to parents and
4 guardians; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 20-2-690.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to mandatory
8 education for children between ages six and 16, is amended by revising subsection (c) as
9 follows:

10 "(c) Any parent, guardian, or other person residing in this state who has control or charge
11 of a child or children and who shall violate this Code section shall be guilty of a
12 misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be subject to a fine not less than \$25.00
13 and not greater than \$100.00, imprisonment not to exceed 30 days, community service,
14 reimbursement to the local school system for the costs incurred to provide notice pursuant
15 to this subsection, or any combination of such penalties, at the discretion of the court
16 having jurisdiction. Each day's absence from school in violation of this part after the
17 child's school system notifies the parent, guardian, or other person who has control or
18 charge of a child of five unexcused days of absence for a child shall constitute a separate
19 offense. After two reasonable attempts to notify the parent, guardian, or other person who
20 has control or charge of a child of five unexcused days of absence without response, the
21 school system shall send a notice to such parent, guardian, or other person by certified
22 mail, return receipt requested. Public schools shall provide to the parent, guardian, or other
23 person having control or charge of each child enrolled in public school a written summary
24 of possible consequences and penalties for failing to comply with compulsory attendance
25 under this Code section for children and their parents, guardians, or other persons having
26 control or charge of children. The parent, guardian, or other person who has control or

27 charge of a child or children shall sign a statement indicating receipt of such written
28 statement of possible consequences and penalties; children who are age ten years or older
29 by September 1 shall sign a statement indicating receipt of such written statement of
30 possible consequences and penalties. After two reasonable attempts by the school to secure
31 such signature or signatures, the school shall be considered to be in compliance with this
32 subsection if it sends a copy of the statement, via certified mail, return receipt requested,
33 to such parent, guardian, other person who has control or charge of a child, or children.
34 Public schools shall retain signed copies of statements through the end of the school year."

35 **SECTION 2.**

36 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.